

# God's Good News about Righteousness

## An Inductive Study of the Book of Romans

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### Study 20, The Application of God's Righteousness to the Believer's Daily Conduct. (Romans 12)

- A. INTRODUCTION: The Writer, the Readers, and the Good News (Romans 1:1-17). Study 1.
- B. CONDEMNATION: The Unveiling of God's Wrath against Man's Unrighteousness (Romans 1:18 – 3:20). (Studies 2-5).
- C. JUSTIFICATION: The Declaration of Righteousness through Faith (Romans 3:21 – 5:21). (Studies 6-10).
- D. SANCTIFICATION: The Outworking of Righteousness in the Believer's Experience (Romans 6-8). (Studies 11-16).
- E. VINDICATION: The Vindication of God's Righteousness in Setting Aside National Israel in Order to Save the Nations (Romans 9-11). (Studies 17-19).
- F. TRANSFORMATION: The Application of Righteousness in Specific Areas (Romans 12:1 – 15:13).

- 1. The Application of God's Righteousness to the Believer's Daily Conduct. Romans 12 (Study 20)

- a. **The Logical Foundation for Daily Conduct. 12:1-2.** Paul asks his readers to perform three decisive acts:

1) What does Paul beg his readers ("brethren") to present to God? (12:1) \_\_\_\_\_.

a) On what basis does he ask them to do so? – in view of the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.

b) Paul calls this act of presentation a sacrifice. What two adjectives does he use to describe this sacrifice?

i \_\_\_\_\_ sacrifice

ii \_\_\_\_\_ sacrifice

c) What response will God have toward this sacrifice? It will be \_\_\_\_\_ to Him.

d) What is this act of sacrifice which we are asked to make called? "A spiritual service of \_\_\_\_\_."

- 2) What does Paul ask his readers NOT to do? (12:2) \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_. The word Paul used here is the word *aion* (not *kosmos*, which is used in 1 John 2:15-16). *Aion* means age, as used in Matt. 13:39-40. So we are not to be conformed to think or act the way this present age thinks or acts.
- 3) Instead of being conformed, we are to be \_\_\_\_\_ (12:2).
- a) How? By renewing our \_\_\_\_\_.
- b) If we do all three of these things, we will be able to prove out in practice in our lives God's \_\_\_\_\_.
- c) Paul uses three adjectives to describe God's will. What are they?
- i \_\_\_\_\_
- ii \_\_\_\_\_
- iii \_\_\_\_\_
- d) One practical question: How can a Christian renew his mind? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**b. The Practice of Daily Conduct in Light of the Spiritual Gifts We Have Been Given 12:3-8.**

- 1) We must have a valid opinion of ourselves. 12:3.
- a) What are we warned *not* to think about ourselves? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_.
- b) How *are* we to think of ourselves? We are to use \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_.
- c) What gift from God should we use in a proper thinking about ourselves? God's gift of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) The illustration of the human body. 12:4.
- a) In our human body we have many \_\_\_\_\_.
- b) These different organs and appendages do not have the same \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) The comparison to the body of Christ. 12:5

- a) There are \_\_\_\_\_ of us Christians.
  - b) Yet we are one \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ.
  - c) Individually, we are \_\_\_\_\_ of one another.
- 4) The application as to how Christians in the Body of Christ are supposed to use their gifts (their God-given abilities) to serve Him and one another: 12:6a.
- a) As individual Christians, we have \_\_\_\_\_ that differ between us. (In this context a gift is a special, God-given ability to serve Him and other Christians.)
  - b) The reason we have different gifts is that God gives to each Christian different amounts and kinds of \_\_\_\_\_. (Grace means favor that I don't deserve.)
  - c) Each of us is responsible to serve God and one another in accordance with the *gifts* and the *grace* God has given us.
- 5) How Christians are supposed to exercise different gifts that they have been given. 12:6b-8. The point is that they are to focus on serving with gifts they have been given, not with gifts which they have not been given.
- a) If one's gift is \_\_\_\_\_, he is to exercise that gift according to the template of "the faith," meaning revealed truth. 12:6b.
  - b) If one's gift is \_\_\_\_\_, he is to focus on his \_\_\_\_\_. 12:7
  - c) If one has been given the gift to \_\_\_\_\_, he is to focus on his \_\_\_\_\_.
  - d) If one has been given the gift to \_\_\_\_\_ people, he is to focus on his \_\_\_\_\_. 12:8.
  - e) If one has been given the gift to \_\_\_\_\_, he should do so with \_\_\_\_\_.
  - f) If one has been given the gift to \_\_\_\_\_ others, he should do so with \_\_\_\_\_.
  - g) If one has been given the gift to show \_\_\_\_\_ to others, he should do so with \_\_\_\_\_.

h) Of these gifts listed here, is there any gift that you think God has given to you?

i) How are you exercising that gift?

**c. Some general standards for deportment with other Christians. 12:9-16.**

1) The over-all flavor should be love. 12:9-10.

a) How are we to love other Christians? Without \_\_\_\_\_ . 12:9.

b) What are we to abhor? \_\_\_\_\_

c) To what are we to cling? \_\_\_\_\_

d) How are we to be devoted to one another? In \_\_\_\_\_ . 12:10.

e) How are we to honor one another? By giving \_\_\_\_\_ to one another.

2) We are to serve with intensity. 12:11.

a) We should not lag behind in \_\_\_\_\_. (Unsloughful zeal.)

b) We should be \_\_\_\_\_ in our spirit. (A burning inner drive.)

c) Whatever we do, we are to serve \_\_\_\_\_.

3) We should be characterized by a positive, prayerful attitude. 12:12.

a) We are to \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_.

b) We are to \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_.

c) We are constantly to be \_\_\_\_\_.

4) We should make it our business to be helping one another. 12:13.

a) How are we to help the saints (meaning other Christians)? \_\_\_\_\_.

b) What are we to practice? \_\_\_\_\_. What does this mean?

- 5) We must build each other up with our speech. 12:14-15.
- a) How are we to speak to those who persecute us? 12:14.
- i Positively, we are to \_\_\_\_\_ them.
- ii Negatively, we are not to \_\_\_\_\_ them.
- b) How are we to show empathy toward one another? 12:15.
- i We are to \_\_\_\_\_ with those who \_\_\_\_\_.
- ii We are to \_\_\_\_\_ with those who \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6) We must have the same mind toward one another. (NIV – we are to live in harmony with one another.) 12:16. What does that look like?
- a) What attitude are we not to exhibit toward one another? We are not to be \_\_\_\_\_ in our mind.
- b) On the contrary, what kind of people are we supposed to hang out with? \_\_\_\_\_.
- c) We are cautioned against feeling what way about ourselves? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

**d. Some general standards for deportment with non Christians. 12:17-21.**

- 1) Reaction: What are we not supposed to pay back to others who have mistreated us? \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_. 12:17
- 2) Testimony: We are to respect what is \_\_\_\_\_ in the eyes of all men. (In other words, we are not to do things that unbelievers would think is questionable. We should have a good reputation with non-Christians – see 1 Timothy 3:7.)
- 3) Lifestyle: If possible, how should we conduct our lives? We should be \_\_\_\_\_ with all men. 12:18.
- 4) Revenge: Should the Christian ever take revenge? 12:19-20.
- a) What are we *never* to do? \_\_\_\_\_.  
12:19.

- b) What should we leave room for? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
- c) What did God say about revenge? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_. (This is a quotation from Deuteronomy 32:25.)
- d) Here is how we are to treat our enemy: (12:20.)
- i If he is \_\_\_\_\_ we should \_\_\_\_\_ him.
- ii If he is \_\_\_\_\_ we should give him a \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_. (A quotation from Prov. 25:21.)
- iii If we respond this way, we will be heaping \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ on his head.
- iv (This is a quotation from Prov. 25:22. What does this verse say the LORD will do for us? He will \_\_\_\_\_ us.)
- v Here is an explanation from John MacArthur in his commentary on Romans: “The phrase *heap burning coals upon his head* referred to an ancient Egyptian custom. When a person wanted to demonstrate public contrition, he would carry on his head a pan of burning coals to represent the burning pain of his shame and guilt. The point here is that, when we love our enemy and genuinely seek to meet his needs, we shame him for his hatred.”
- 5) General policy: Here is a general “rule of thumb” to live by.
- a) We should not allow ourselves to be \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_.
- b) Instead, we should overcome \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_.
- e. **Conclusion.** There are a lot of short, pithy statements here but they give an enormous amount of excellent guidance on how we are to live. If we live our lives with Christians and non-Christians as this section exhorts us, we will be serving Christ and His Kingdom well! May God bless you as you live out a life of excellence!

## **Study 20, The Application of Righteousness in Daily Conduct**

Romans 12

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